



Town Shellfish Crier
November 12, 2019

1. Winter Weather Station

As winter weather approaches, please keep your eyes on the [Wellfleet Marina weather station](#), which is the station the Wellfleet Shellfish Department uses to determine air temperature. The Town of Wellfleet prohibits shellfishing when the air temperature is below 28 degrees. The ball will go up on the shellfish office to alert shellfishermen if the shellfishery is closed. We will also post it to our open and public [Facebook](#) page. When temp rises to 28, we will put ball down and update Facebook, so stay tuned at the pier or online. Grant holders are allowed to work on their grants even when temp is below 28 as the product is theirs.

2. Overwintering Contracts

[Overwintering contracts](#) have been printed and are available in our offices. We also have them in the trucks. Almost every grant holder will need to fill one out this year. Everything from clam nets to holding cages that will be staying on a grant through the winter will need to be documented. All condos/hotels/stackable cages must be removed before the ice comes or January 15, whichever comes first. Overwintering contracts should not be turned in until the gear on the grant matches what is on the contract. If your grant is already ready for overwintering, please fill out a contract ASAP in advance of the negative tides at the end of this month so that the department can use those tides to come and check. Thank you!

3. Grant holder reminder to call WSD

7.21. Exception to Hours of Operation

"As required in Section 4.7, no license holder shall harvest, dig, pile, take or carry away any shellfish or shell during the period from one half (1/2) hour after sunset to one half (1/2) hour before sunrise by any method whatsoever. In the event of impending natural emergencies due to storms, ice or the like, and only after notifying the Shellfish Constable, a licensee may engage in securing stock and gear during this time period. Licensees must notify the Shellfish Constable in advance of their intention to empty seed trays and plant out seed at such times when the extreme tides needed to conduct such activities occur during this time period."

The department also recognizes the necessity of this exception as grant holders work to remove gear in advance of winter ice, so please do give us a call to let us know if you will be working in the dark: 508-349-0325.

Thank you. Please give us a call with any type of question, concern or idea! 508-349-0325

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